

Learning from a Life Saving event

The following is a short description of a Life Saving Rule event, investigation, follow up, and learning opportunities.

It is intended to help share information and learn from each event to prevent future occurrences. It is about Saving Lives.

Everyone should ensure that we know the rules, follow the rules, and always intervene if there is the potential for unsafe behaviors or conditions. This applies to everyone: peers, supervisors, and visitors.

If in doubt, always consult your supervisor.

Event Date and Summary:

Date: 2010-07-15 – Work with a Valid Permit when Required/Verify Isolation Before Work Begins

What happened:

A contract crew was working on hull column elevators. Crew was staging materials and making preparations on one WCC. There was another WCC/LOTO to change safety device. The crew was instructed to wait for confirmation of LOTO and issuance of WCC and lock box for personal locks before they were to begin work. When the sponsor returned to worksite with WCC/LOTO certificates and lock box, the crew had already removed the old safety device and installed the new one.

Which Life Saving Rule(s) involved:

Work with a valid permit when required.
Verify Isolation before work begins and use the specified life protecting equipment.

Investigation results:

Contract Company was not well informed of the 12 Life Saving Rules and the consequences of not following them.
Contractors ignored direction to wait for WCC and LOTO prior to beginning work.
Incident determined to be a Life Saving Rule violation.

Action taken:

Individuals removed from premises. Notified Contactor Company on initial event.

Key Learning Points:

Contractors who are normally procured with a standard PO for services are not always informed or knowledgeable about the 12 Life Saving Rules. When these contractors arrive on location, it would be prudent to quiz them about their understanding of the 12 Life Saving Rules. Explain in detail if they do not fully understand.

It is about saving lives, and it is working.

Safety is a value, Goal Zero is a mindset